THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The present policy docs not permit FDI in retail trade sector.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

FDI in agricultural insurance

2405. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal from Planning Commission to allow 100 per cent FDI in insurance dealing with agricultural products in rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor: and

(c) whether any proposal has been received from foreign companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Buyer for subsidiary of Indian Bank

2406. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Bank is searching for a buyer for its subsidiary;

(b) if so, whether the efforts have been successful; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Bank has reported that it is searching for suitable buyer for its merchant banking subsidiary *viz.* Indbank Merchant Banking Services Ltd.

(b) No, Sir. Not so far.

(c) Does not arise.